

Action Item _____

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COMMISSION DIRECTIVE**

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTER

☐

DATE

January 11, 2021

MOTOR CARRIER MATTER

☐

DOCKET NO.

2020-125-E

UTILITIES MATTER

☒

ORDER NO.

2021-18

THIS DIRECTIVE SHALL SERVE AS THE COMMISSION'S ORDER ON THIS ISSUE.

ORDER GRANTING SIX-MONTH PAUSE IN HEARING PER REQUEST OF PARTIES

SUBJECT:

DOCKET NO. 2020-125-E - Application of Dominion Energy South Carolina, Incorporated for Adjustment of Rates and Charges (*This filing includes a request for an increase to retail electric rates) (See Commission Order No. 2020-313) - Staff Presents for Commission Consideration the Request of the Office of Regulatory Staff, Agreed To By All Parties Without Objection, for a Ratemaking "Pause" To Recess the Merits Hearing for Six (6) Months Due to the Extraordinary Economic Events and Adverse Circumstances Confronting DESC Ratepayers at This Time and Reflected in the Record in This Case and To Allow the Parties to Discuss Settlement.

COMMISSION ACTION:

With the understanding that the parties are working on a formal document to which they will all agree, I move the following points, which I understand will be part of that document:

- First of all, that this hearing be paused for six months, with a new hearing date, if necessary, of July 12, 2021, to begin at 9 a.m.
- After that, the order deadline is August 16, 2021.
- The parties will provide 30-day status updates, with the first being due February 15, 2021, and then the 15th day of each month thereafter, with those status updates being in writing or virtual.
- And that, when the hearing reconvenes, that the testimony that has been prefiled as of today, January 11, 2021, and the examination of those witnesses who have not yet testified in this proceeding would be taken up at that time. I think the only exception would be any settlement testimony that might be proposed by the parties, should a settlement be reached.

That would be my motion.

PRESIDING: J. WilliamsSESSION: HearingTIME: 1:22 p.m.

	MOTION	YES	NO	OTHER	
BELSER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Present in Hearing Room
CASTON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Present in Hearing Room
ERVIN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Voting via Skype

POWERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
THOMAS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
C. WILLIAMS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
J. WILLIAMS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Voting via Skype

Voting via Skype

Voting via Skype

Present in Hearing Room

(SEAL)

RECORDED BY: J. Schmieding





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January 11, 2021

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Jocelyn G. Boyd, Esquire
Chief Clerk & Administrator
Public Service Commission of South Carolina
101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

RE: Application of Dominion Energy South Carolina, Incorporated for Adjustment of Rates and Charges
Docket No: **2020-125-E**

Dear Ms. Boyd:

The South Carolina Office of Regulatory Staff (“ORS”) has been actively participating in the above referenced docket hearings including the ratepayer hearings. Based upon the testimony and evidence presented to the Commission up to this point and the extraordinary circumstances confronting citizens and ratepayers, ORS offers its recommendation to Dominion Energy South Carolina, Incorporated, to all parties in this proceeding, and to the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the “Commission”), that a ratemaking “pause” be considered and permitted for a minimum of six (6) months beyond the pending deadline to issue a regulatory decision. ORS recognizes that its recommended pause would require an express agreement by DESC followed by approval of the Commission. ORS respectfully offers its ratemaking pause recommendation because it is timely, measured in scope and reasonable.

As a matter of perspective, in two rate cases pending before the Commission last year, all parties were able to reach an agreement to suspend applicable deadlines. In one case, the hearing and issuing a final decision were delayed beyond the statutory six-month deadline. In another case, the rate impact of the Commission Order was delayed.

Letter – Jocelyn G. Boyd, Esquire

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January 11, 2021

Given all the adverse economic events and circumstances that now confront DESC ratepayers at this time and are reflected in the record in this case, I respectfully request the opportunity to address the Commission on this urgent matter.

Yours Truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nanette S. Edwards".

Nanette Edwards

cc: All Parties of Record (via E-mail)
David Butler, Esquire (via E-mail)

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